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CLAIMS

1-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) A handle for a lacrosse stick and mounting a lacrosse head thereon, comprising:

a hollow ~~metal~~ tube having a substantially polygon cross-sectional shape for attachment to the lacrosse head;

said hollow ~~metal~~ tube having a top end and a bottom end, the hollow tube defining a length between said top end and said bottom end;

said hollow tube having an upper ~~top end~~ portion inwardly spaced from said top end, a lower portion inwardly spaced from said bottom end, and an intermediate portion between said upper and lower portions, and a ~~bottom end~~ portion;

~~said top end portion and said bottom end portion defining a length of said hollow metal tube;~~

said hollow ~~metal~~ tube having an outer surface and an inner surface, said hollow tube intermediate portion and lower portion being void of apertures; and

at least two ~~a pair of~~ reinforcing inserts, each constructed from a deformable foam material, said reinforcing inserts attached molded and permanently and immovably coupled to said inner surface of said ~~top end~~ upper portion and said ~~bottom end~~ lower portion;

at least one of said reinforcing inserts forming a layer extending substantially around a circumference of said inner surface for strengthening said hollow ~~metal~~ tube at said ~~top end~~ upper

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portion and counterbalancing the lacrosse head at said ~~bottom end~~ lower portion;

said reinforcing inserts minimizing the weight of the handle by defining a hollow cavity and being offset from said intermediate portion and absorbing vibrations from said hollow ~~metal~~ tube during use.

36. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 35 wherein said reinforcing inserts define a wall thickness, wherein said wall thickness varies along the length of said hollow ~~metal~~-tube formed from aluminum.

37. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 35 wherein said hollow ~~metal~~ tube is formed from at least one of aluminum and titanium.

38. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 36[[35]] wherein said wall thickness is substantially uniform around said circumference of said inner surface.

39. (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 36 wherein said reinforcing inserts are formed from fiberglass.

40. (Currently Amended) A handle for a lacrosse stick, comprising:
a hollow ~~metal~~ tube having a first end for engagement with a lacrosse head, ~~and~~ a second end opposite and distal from ~~opposing~~ said first end, and sidewalls extending from said first end to said second end;

said first end and said second end defining a length of said hollow ~~metal~~ tube, said hollow ~~metal~~ tube having an inner surface and an outer surface, said hollow tube sidewalls being void of apertures in said second end and along said length;

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a pair of reinforcing inserts ~~attached~~ molded and permanently immovably coupled to
said inner surface of said hollow tube, said reinforcing inserts being spaced inwardly from said first
end and said second end;

said reinforcing inserts extending substantially around a circumference of said inner
surface;

~~said reinforcing inserts forming a layer coupled to said inner surface and defining a~~
~~cavity for minimizing the weight of the handle;~~

said reinforcing inserts offset from an intermediate portion between said first end and
said second end of said hollow ~~metal~~ tube for further minimizing the weight of the handle and
absorbing vibrations from said hollow ~~metal~~ tube during use;

said hollow ~~metal~~ tube having a polygon cross-sectional shape.

41. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 40 wherein said reinforcing inserts
are formed from a deformable foam material that is molded directly to the inner surface, said
reinforcing inserts each forming a cavity therethrough that minimizes the weight of the handle
~~hollow metal tube formed from aluminum.~~

42. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 40 wherein said hollow ~~metal~~ tube
is formed from at least one of titanium and aluminum.

43. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 40 wherein said reinforcing inserts
are formed from a deformable foam material that is molded directly to the inner surface, said
reinforcing inserts completely filling a cavity defined by the inner surface ~~wall thickness is~~

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~~substantially uniform around said circumference of said inner surface.~~

44. (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 40 wherein said reinforcing inserts are formed from fiberglass.

45. (Currently Amended) A handle for a lacrosse stick and mounting a lacrosse head thereon, comprising:

a hollow ~~metal~~ tube having a plurality of inner corners defining a bore with a polygon cross-sectional shape;

said hollow ~~metal~~ tube having a top end portion terminating at a top end, an intermediate portion, and a bottom end portion terminating at a bottom end;

said top end ~~portion~~ and said bottom end ~~portion~~ defining a length of said hollow ~~metal~~ tube therebetween;

said hollow ~~metal~~ tube having an outer surface and an inner surface, wherein said top end defines an aperture for receiving a lacrosse head, wherein said bottom portion and said intermediate portion are void of apertures extending through said inner surface and said outer surface; and

a pair of reinforcing inserts attached to said inner surface of said ~~top end portion and said bottom end portion~~ hollow tube at said plurality of inner corners, wherein one of said reinforcing inserts is positioned between said top end and said intermediate portion, and the other of said reinforcing inserts is positioned between said bottom end and said intermediate portion;

said reinforcing inserts minimizing local deformation of said hollow ~~metal~~ tube and

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absorbing vibrations from said hollow ~~metal~~ tube during use;

said reinforcing inserts minimizing the weight of the handle being offset from said intermediate portion.

46. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 45 wherein said reinforcing inserts are constructed from at least one of a solid core fiberglass element and a solid core foam element that are press fit into the hollow tube ~~hollow metal tube formed from aluminum~~.

47. (Currently Amended) The handle of claim 45 wherein said reinforcing inserts are solid core foam elements that are molded in the top end portion and the bottom end portion ~~hollow metal tube formed from titanium~~.

48. (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 45 wherein said reinforcing inserts are formed from fiberglass.

49. (Previously Presented) A lacrosse stick having a lacrosse head coupled to said top end portion of the lacrosse handle of claim 35.

50. (Previously Presented) A lacrosse stick having a lacrosse head coupled to aid first end of the lacrosse handle of claim 40.

51. (Previously Presented) A lacrosse stick having a lacrosse head coupled to said top end portion of the lacrosse handle of claim 45.

52. (New) The handle of claim 35 wherein a cross-section of said hollow ~~metal~~ tube is octagonal.

53. (New) The handle of claim 40 wherein a cross-section of said hollow ~~metal~~

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tube is octagonal.

54. (New) The handle of claim 45 wherein said reinforcing inserts are formed from a deformable foam material that is molded to said inner surface of said hollow tube.

55. (New) The handle of claim 54 wherein a cross-section of said hollow ~~metal~~ tube is octagonal.